

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



FILED
6-20-16
04:59 PM

In the Matter of the Application of San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project.

Application 12-05-020
(Filed May 18, 2012)

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATION
OF THE OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES
(PUBLIC VERSION))**

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (“ORA”) submits this ex parte notice in accordance with Rule 8.4 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure.

An ex parte communication occurred between Charles Mee, Senior Utilities Engineer for ORA, Chloe Lukins, Program Manager for ORA, and Edward Moldavsky, Counsel for ORA, and Christine Hammond, Advisor to President Picker. The communication was initiated by Cheryl Cox of ORA, and consisted of a meeting at the San Francisco Commission Office on June 17, 2016, from 4:00 p.m. – 5:05 p.m.

Chloe Lukins provided a brief synopsis of ORA’s recommendation that Alternative J, with ORA’s electrical modifications, should be adopted.

Charles Mee explained that power supply reliability would decrease under the Proposed Project. He stated that under the Proposed Project, three transmission lines would share the same towers and that Escondido—Talega –Capistrano is a non-standard three terminal line. Further, he explained that under the Proposed Project, the Laguna Niguel substation would be vulnerable because instead of having two power supplies to it (one from San Mateo and the other from Capistrano), there would only be one power supply from Capistrano. He also critiqued the position of San Diego Gas and Electric Company (“SDG&E”) that a jumper could address a potential power outage of Laguna

Niguel. He stated that in such a scenario, SDG&E could not guarantee that it could restore power supply to customers in Laguna Niguel within 24 hours.

Charles Mee also discussed alleged loop flow concerns regarding Alternative J. He described certain mitigation measures such as setting circuit breakers to “normal open” and using operating procedures. He also pointed out that the Proposed Project has loop flow concerns.

Charles Mee described the normal practice of placing a 230 kV substation at the edge of a community rather than in the center of community, as envisioned by the Proposed Project. He also observed that SDG&E could fix the alleged configuration problems of the Talega Substation within its footprint.

Charles Mee discussed how Alternative J would provide five 230 kV transmission lines to the South Orange County area, which would increase power supply reliability. He explained how ORA had proposed minor modifications to the electrical configuration of the Trabuco Substation under Alternative J, which are reflected in a handout that SDG&E has designated as confidential. He advised that ORA’s proposed electrical modifications would fit within the footprint of the AT&T parking lot. He also offered that ORA is flexible as to the specifics of the electrical configuration under Alternative J, as long as such proposed configurations increase power supply reliability.

Charles Mee noted that utilities have collaborated in the past regarding interconnected projects, pointing to the mandate of FERC Order 1000. He also briefly discussed Alternative F regarding cost and location. Chloe Lukins explained that Alternative J is cost-effective compared to the Proposed Project.

Edward Moldavsky stated that ORA is opposed to Southern California Edison’s (“SCE”) motion for party status, noting ORA’s recently-filed response.

There were written materials associated with the communication. Exhibit 1 includes materials distributed at the meeting. The last page of Exhibit 1 includes material that SDG&E purports to be confidential. Thus, ORA is submitting a concurrent motion to file the last page of Exhibit 1 under seal. Exhibit 2 includes an email correspondence,

subsequent to the ex parte meeting, from Chloe Lukins to Christine Hammond, which relayed SCE's Motion for Party Status and ORA's responsive pleading.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ EDWARD MOLDAVSKY

EDWARD MOLDAVSKY

Attorney for

Office of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission
320 W. 4th St., Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Telephone: (213) 620-2635
Email: edm@cpuc.ca.gov

June 20, 2016